

**TOWN OF DAVIE  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
FEBRUARY 9, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Mayor Truex, Vice-Mayor Hubert and Councilmember Starkey (arrived at 8:26 p.m.). Also present were Acting Town Administrator Cohen, Town Attorney Kiar, and Assistant Town Clerk McDaniel recording the meeting.

Mickey Jarrett, Chair of the Pine Island Ridge (PIR) Annexation Committee, advised that the Committee had completed its negotiations and that the interlocal agreement with the Town would be completed and signed at the February meeting. She summarized the Committee's accomplishments. Ms. Jarrett advised that the Broward County Commission would schedule an election for March 14, 2006 for registered voters of Pine Island Ridge.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed along with a moment of prayer for the Armed Forces.

Mayor Truex thanked the Annexation Committee for inviting the Town. He looked forward to welcoming PIR into Davie.

Mr. Cohen introduced members of staff and then read various clauses within the annexation agreement. He advised that the annexation would become effective as of September 15, 2006 if approved by the voters. He read clauses concerning the Town's role with regard to maintenance and improvement projects, and of the homeowner's association responsibilities. He further read clauses concerning fire and police services and social and recreational programs.

Sy Collins, a resident of PIR, voiced his concerns about annexation and recalled past efforts of PIR residents who fought earlier attempts at annexation. He felt PIR would be better off without another layer of government. Mr. Collins felt influential individuals were behind the push for annexation and wanted PIR residents to analyze how they had arrived at this point. He questioned the hurry to become part of Davie and felt the current quality of life in PIR was fine without Davie. Mr. Collins felt annexation would bring various negative consequences including the added layer of government along with a loss of independence. He disputed the suggestion that PIR would be subject to skyrocketing taxes in the future if it remained unincorporated.

Dave Gonzalez, 9910 SW 23 Street, spoke in favor of annexation.

Jerry Hirschowitz, a resident of PIR, felt annexation was positive for PIR and eventually, it would be necessary. He requested that a clause be added to the agreement indicating that the Town had received and read certain PIR documents outlining terms that its residents wanted. Mr. Hirschowitz requested that the Town agree to those terms and not violate them for a period of at least 30 years.

Chris McCaulson, a resident of PIR, questioned the level of police service to be expected. Mr. Cohen explained that the Town guaranteed to provide the same level of service as the Broward Sheriff's Office for at least one year. He read a memorandum from Police Chief John George detailing services to be provided. Chief George explained that the interlocal agreement was actually with the Town's Fire Department. He advised that PIR would receive better service from the Town than that provided by the Broward Sheriff's Office. He explained other services that the Police Department would provide.

Fire Chief Don DiPetrillo explained that the current interlocal agreement was with the Town for fire and rescue services. He added that if PIR was annexed into the Town, services would increase at no cost to PIR residents. Mr. McCaulson commended Chief DiPetrillo for being instrumental in getting ice, water and generators to PIR residents after Hurricane Wilma.

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Chief George assured PIR residents that if additional services were needed, he would request additional officers.

Mr. McCaulson questioned the clause in the agreement the concerning the water system and asked whether PIR residents would be subject to fees. Mr. Cohen explained that this would not happen unless the Town decided to provide PIR with its own water and sewer system. Mayor Truex felt it was unlikely that PIR would get Davie water.

Richard Newell, a resident of PIR, voiced his concerns about trash pickup as he felt PIR's needs were different for condominium residents. Mr. Cohen explained that the Town offered multiple pickup services for condominiums. Mr. Newell requested pricing for the purposes of comparison. Mr. Cohen indicated that he would provide this information. Mr. Cohen advised that the Town would honor the PIR contract with Comcast and agreed to provide pricing for cable services.

Ralph Schwab, a resident of PIR, stated that Davie was not the same Town as it was during earlier efforts to annex 18 years ago. He asked why it was so difficult to get estimates of property tax changes after annexation. Mr. Cohen advised that the Town had previously prepared tax estimates and was willing to provide this information to PIR residents. Mayor Truex stated that the Town's tax rate had remained steady for a long time but added that Davie could not predict what Broward County would do in the future. Mr. Schwab referred to a recent Sun-Sentinel article on misappropriation of funds in Davie and asked for the Town's position on this. Mayor Truex felt what was reported in the newspaper was accurate and explained that the Town had selected a firm to review the Town's financial and procurement processes to find the weak links in order to avoid a future occurrence. He added that the Town was in the process of hiring a forensic auditor and felt that after such measures, Davie would have procedures superior to other cities.

Mayor Truex encouraged PIR residents to become more active in the airport expansion issue.

In response to Mr. Schwab's question, Councilmember Starkey explained different flight tracking approaches being examined in the Part 150 study. She advised that the Town was asking that nighttime restrictions also be considered. Councilmember Starkey advised that public participation workshops would be held to discuss the Part 150 study and encouraged those present to attend.

Mayor Truex explained that the airport expansion process was being driven by the Broward County Commission. He assured those present that the Town would not take part in any action that would be detrimental to PIR and encouraged all to participate in taking action. Councilmember Starkey assured those present that the Town was not in favor of a north parallel runway as this would be the worst thing for PIR.

Wally Kaye, a resident of PIR, questioned earlier comments suggesting that redistricting of PIR would occur after annexation and spoke against political redistricting. Mayor Truex explained that the redistricting language in the annexation agreement was lifted from the Town's Charter, which controlled redistricting. He advised that redistricting options would create either one or two districts. Mr. Kaye questioned whether any language in the agreement protected the PIR clubhouse and golf course as private property. Mr. Cohen assured PIR residents that the Town had no interest in purchasing its private property. Mr. Kaye requested that this be specifically written in the agreement. Town Attorney Kiar indicated that the Town could tighten language in the agreement with reference to privately owned properties. Mr. Cohen agreed to add the appropriate language as requested.

Nick Busey, a resident of PIR, spoke in favor of annexation and felt PIR would lose its bargaining power if it waited until 2010. He felt PIR would be stuck with services from the County that would likely double in costs in the future. Mr. Busey pointed out that PIR would probably be one of the larger voting blocks in Davie if annexation went through. He spoke of the benefits of PIR having its own voting area and its own representation. Mayor Truex explained that establishing another commission district would

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require a change in the Town's Charter. He stated it was unlikely for only PIR to have its own commissioner because it did not have the population required. He added that such a commitment was not being made at this time. Councilmember Starkey explained that the Town would commission FAU, as it had in the past, to examine various aspects of redistricting.

Marvin Simon, a resident of PIR, spoke of previous annexation meetings and of his role in leading anti-annexation efforts 18 years ago. He pointed out that things had since changed and he now spoke in favor of annexation. Mr. Simon also refuted previous speakers' comments.

Terry Marter, a resident of PIR, questioned why anyone would want to go into a city with financial problems. She felt PIR had an excellent contract with Comcast and did not need Davie's problems.

Ms. Jarrett thanked Council and staff for attending the meeting.

There being no further business to discuss and no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

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Mayor/Councilmember

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Town Clerk